



HJ0055

LRB099 11382 KTG 32185 r

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The Department of Healthcare and Family Services
3 defines "telehealth" as the use of a telecommunication system
4 to provide medical services between places of lesser and
5 greater medical capability and/or expertise, for the purpose of
6 evaluation and treatment; medical data exchanged can take the
7 form of multiple formats: text, graphics, still images, audio
8 and video; the information or data exchanged can occur in real
9 time (synchronous) through interactive video or multimedia
10 collaborative environments or in near real time (asynchronous)
11 through "store and forward" applications; and

12 WHEREAS, Under the State's Medical Assistance Program,
13 telehealth services were previously limited to medical
14 evaluations between hospitals only; and

15 WHEREAS, In order to improve patient access to specialists,
16 while supporting the quality of care patients receive, on
17 January 29, 2010, the Department of Healthcare and Family
18 Services expanded the covered services for telehealth to
19 include telemedicine and telepsychiatry; and

20 WHEREAS, Under telehealth expansion, physicians, advanced
21 practice nurses, podiatrists, Federally Qualified Health
22 Centers (FQHCs), Rural Health Clinics (RHCs) and Encounter Rate

1 Clinics (ERCs) are now allowed to render telemedicine services;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Telehealth services are viewed as a
4 cost-effective alternative to the more traditional
5 face-to-face way of providing medical care; therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
7 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE
8 SENATE CONCURRING HEREIN, that there is created the Telehealth
9 Services Committee (Committee) to study and assess the cost
10 savings achieved through the expansion of telehealth services
11 under the State's Medical Assistance Program and to evaluate
12 the efficiency and effectiveness of telehealth services under
13 the State's Medical Assistance Program; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That the Committee shall be composed of the
15 following members:

16 (1) two members appointed by the Speaker of the House
17 of Representatives;

18 (2) two members appointed by the Minority Leader of the
19 House of Representatives;

20 (3) two members appointed by the President of the
21 Senate;

22 (4) two members appointed by the Minority Leader of the
23 Senate; and

1 (5) one member appointed by the Governor; and be it
2 further

3 RESOLVED, That the members of the Committee shall be
4 appointed no later than 30 days after the effective date of
5 this resolution and shall serve without compensation; and be it
6 further

7 RESOLVED, That the Department of Healthcare and Family
8 Services shall provide administrative support to the
9 Committee; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That the Committee shall submit a report on its
11 findings to the Governor and the General Assembly by August 1,
12 2016.